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# THE DIXIE RANCHER







Supervisor Albert estimates that 30,000 persons saw the Ocala exhibit at the Volusia County Fair held in Deland Florida in February.



# THE DIXIE RANGER

U. S. FOREST SERVICE, SOUTHERN REGION, ATLANTA, GEORGIA  
JOSEPH C. KIRCHER, REGIONAL FORESTER

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## FOREST FIRES IN CENTRAL EUROPE

Fire causes relatively little damage to the forests of Central Europe, as compared with those of the United States. One of the chief reasons for this is that people who live near or go into the woods are very careful not to start fires, especially during dry seasons. Constant vigilance is maintained by the foresters and, although many people work in the forests or tramp through the woods for recreation, smoking and other uses of fire are prohibited during danger periods.

Europeans have learned to appreciate the social and economic value of forest lands much more than have Americans, and this accounts in a large measure for the greater care with fire on the part of individuals. In Europe, timber is one of the most important crops. Dead leaves and litter also are highly prized as necessary for the maintenance of fertility of forest soils, and frequently they are gathered and applied to farm soils. In fact, in some parts of Europe more damage is done to forest lands by the removal of litter for farms than by fire. The value of dead plant material in the woods emphasizes the need for fire

prevention.

The burning of even a few acres of forest land is viewed with alarm. Five American foresters, who were being conducted through a forest in Germany in the summer of 1935, had pointed out to them an area of about 200 acres which had been burned over during a dry, windy day seven years before. This was the biggest burn observed during many days of travel in the forests of that country. It was referred to by the German foresters as "a calamity." In the United States more than 40 million acres of forest land are burned over annually, with far too little thought of the enormous loss to the country.

C. L. Forsling,  
Director, Appalachian Forest  
Experiment Station.

## HOW E C W HAS STIMULATED FIRE PRO- TECTION ON NON- FEDERAL LANDS

Emergency Conservation work has proved a stimulus to fire protection on State and private lands in the South. A brief study of the accompanying chart will show the concrete evidence of this increased interest. Funds for fire control purposes in the eleven States composing Region 8 increased from \$455,000 in the fiscal year 1934 to \$955,000 in 1936-- more than doubled in a three-year period.

Excluding the Federal funds which have not been considered in the preparation of the chart, there are three contributing agencies: the State, the county, and the individual landowner. These represent three types of forest protection systems. Forest fire control operations center in the State Forest Service, and the system established may be a combination of State, county, and individual landowner type of protection.

In Region 8, however, there are clear-cut examples of each system. The State type is exemplified by the Tennessee protection organization. The fire control funds outside of the Federal allotment are derived almost entirely from State appropriations. It will be noted that Tennessee increased its appropriation for this purpose from \$20,000 in 1934 to over \$70,000 in 1936.

North Carolina represents the county-wide protection system,

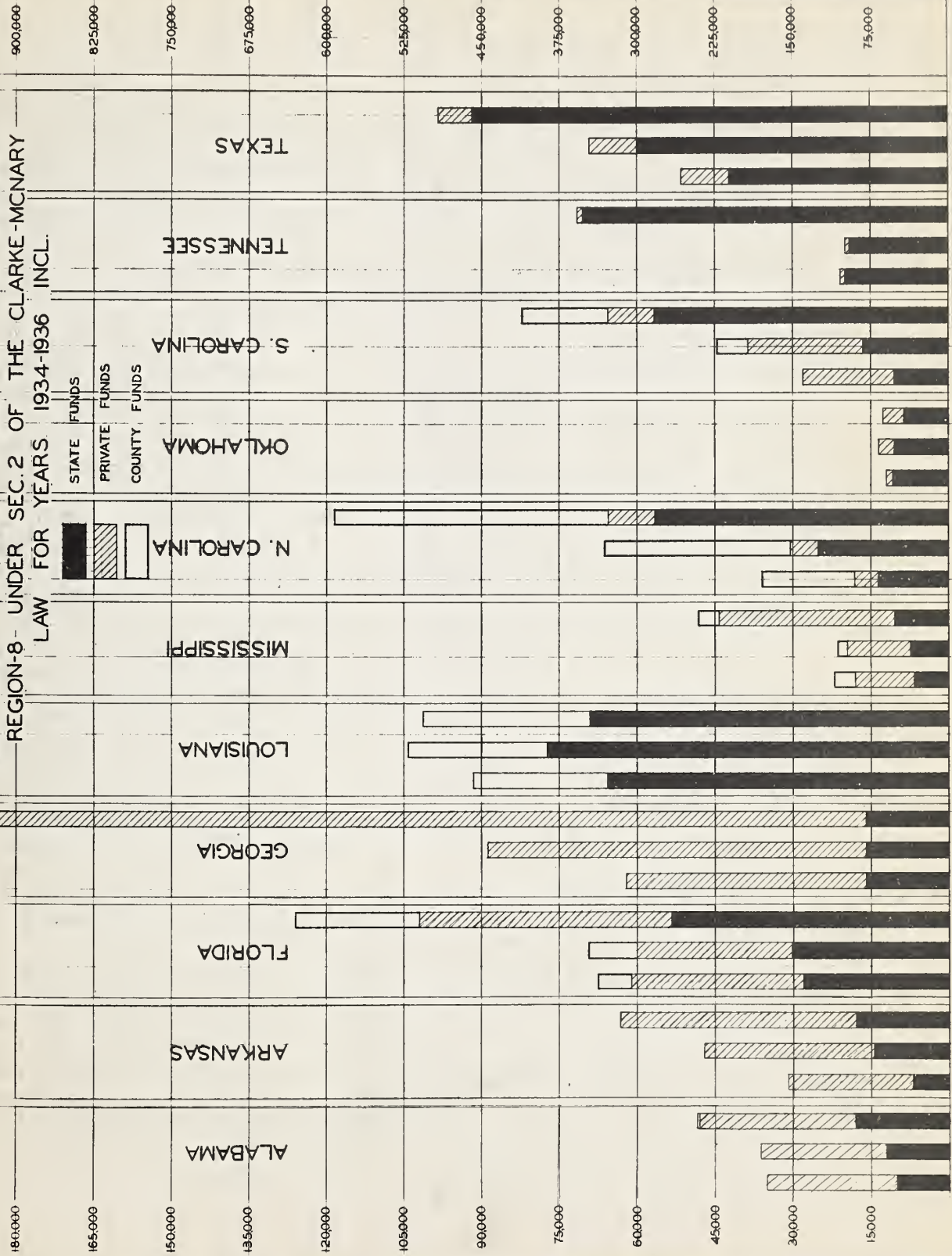
where the county appropriates funds to the State Forest Service for establishing a protective organization. Depending upon the funds available, This may include any or all of the following advantages: a detection system of lookout towers with telephone communication, paid fire wardens, organized fire-fighting crews, and fire-fighting tools and equipment. The ECW program has extended this system by erecting towers, telephone lines, and by breaking up large blocks of timberland with truck trails and fire breaks. In the three-year period North Carolina leads all other States with an increase from \$17,000 in 1934 to \$60,000 in 1936, with about 60 counties cooperating.

The private landowner system is best exemplified by Georgia where several owners are grouped together into Timber Protective Organizations. These organizations work together with the State forestry officials and with the pooled funds construct and maintain towers, telephone lines, truck trails, and fire breaks. The ECW program has done much to encourage the protection of private timberland. The amount contributed by private landowners in Georgia increased from \$26,000 in 1934 to \$168,000 in 1936.

These figures and the chart show splendid achievement and an ability to take advantage of the opportunity to emphasize the beneficial importance of forests for public economic and recreational development. Real progress in



GRAPH SHOWING COMBINED FUNDS FROM STATE, PRIVATE AND COUNTY SOURCES BUDGETED BY 11 STATES IN REGION-8 UNDER SEC.2 OF THE CLARKE-MCNARY LAW FOR YEARS 1934-1936 INCL.





Southern forestry is being made and will continue to be made, an accomplishment for which we can be proud. The State foresters and their organizations are making forestry history in the South and are keenly aware of their responsibilities and opportunity.

-- D. L. Dorward

CHICAGO PARK EXPERT INSPECTS  
OUACHITA RECREATION

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C. W. Bussey, County Commissioner of Cook County, Illinois, who is in charge of the Cook County Forest Reserve, and Rex Volz, District Superintendent of one of the areas of the Forest Reserve, visited the Ouachita office on February 26 and Mr. Volz was conducted on a trip through the Forest. The Cook County Forest Reserve is only a short distance from Chicago and is probably the most heavily used area in the country. Accustomed to conditions on the Reserve, Mr. Volz could hardly understand how we were able to do anything along protection lines because of our small force and extensive area. He visited the Ouachita Campground, Charlton Campground, Collier's Spring, Crystal Campground, Mine Creek Campground, Mena District Ranger's office, Waldron, Girard Road, Aly- Briggsville Road, Allen's Peak Tower and Gladstone Road. He was particularly interested in the campground development and in the timber on the Forest. He considered the design of the dam at Charlton Campground especially good and thought they might make use of that type in the development of the Reserve. Our fire pos-

ters attracted Mr. Volz's attention. He thought them both economical and effective as contrasted with the hand-painted signs in use on the Reserve. He was also impressed with the scenery and felt that the Shady area compared very favorably with other noted areas which he has visited in his travels to practically all the recreational areas of the United States.

Mr. Volz and Mr. Bussey said they would do everything they could to promote the interest of the Ouachita National Forest in and around Chicago. They took maps and literature of the Forest to post in their headquarters' office. If Mr. Volz returns to Chicago with one-tenth of the interest which he exhibited here, I am sure that he will have considerable to say to his visitors regarding the recreational possibilities of this Forest.

-- Frank W. Rasor,

Assistant Forest Supervisor.

MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION IS  
TEN YEARS OLD

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Mississippi is this month celebrating the tenth anniversary of the creation of the State Forestry Commission.

The number of employees has increased from only a State Forester to 289 people engaged in the business of fire control, on nearly 5 million acres. Sixty thousand citizens have signed volunteer agreements to aid in protecting the



State's forest land from fires.

Nine State forest parks have been established and two State forest nurseries are in operation, producing 1,000,000 seedlings for planting on farmlands.

The original Commission appointed by Governor Whitfield in March 1926 included J. B. Bishop and P. N. Howell who have given continuous service in behalf of forestry in Mississippi for ten years.

Hugh L. White, who ten years later is serving as Governor of the State and Chairman, ex-officio, of the Forestry Commission, was an active member of the Reforestation Committee appointed by Governor Whitfield in 1926 to confer with the U. S. Forest Service in an effort to obtain Federal aid for reforestation purposes.

Fred B. Merrill is the present State Forester.

-- L. B. King,  
Regional Office.

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#### CHESTNUT IN ALABAMA

The reference to chestnut timber on page 7 of the February Dixie Ranger, as formerly having been a component of the stands on the DeLo Howe forest in the lower Piedmont Region of South Carolina, reminds me of a similar record on the Alabama National Forest.

While in charge of acquisi-

tion on that forest in 1917, I had access to the field notes of the General Land Office surveyors who had run out the section lines nearly a century before. These notes very frequently referred to "passing through a forest of chestnut" or "crossing a chestnut ridge". Many of the corner and witness trees were chestnut.

In 1917 there was practically no living chestnut on the Alabama. Very infrequently we would come across an old dead chestnut snag. At that time the blight had not moved south, nor was there any apparent possibility that lumbering had removed the chestnut.

It would be interesting to know what climatic or other changes occurred in the south in the 19th century to practically exterminate this species in certain regions.

-- Wm. R. Barbour,  
Regional Office.

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#### PAPER COMPANY TRIES SAND PINE FOR PULPWOOD

During January a trial sale of fifty cords of sand pine were sold. This wood will be cut and transported by truck to Panama City, Florida, where the Southern Kraft Corporation will use it as pulp wood. Cost figures derived from this sale will be the basis of an appraisal, and will also indicate to the operator definitely whether or not he can continue

to conduct this operation. If financially profitable, this may mean that we will be able to definitely manage the approximately twelve thousand acres of sand pine on the southeastern corner of the forest for the production of sand pine pulpwood.

-- H. A. Snyder,  
Florida Forests.

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DYAL APPOINTED FORESTER FOR  
GEORGIA

Elmer E. Dyal was appointed State Forester for Georgia on February 13. Mr. Dyal is a native of Georgia, and attended Georgia public schools and the Gordon Military Institute. For the past two and one-half years he has been Project Superintendent at camp P-60, Woodbine, Georgia.

Mr. Dyal succeeds B. M. Lufburrow who has been State Forester since the Georgia Forest Service was organized ten years ago.

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ANNUAL LEAVE EXTENDED

President Roosevelt on March 14 signed into law bills providing more liberal vacations and new sick-leave allowances for federal employees. The new law authorizes 26 days' annual vacation leave for permanent employees and 30 days' annual leave for temporary employees.

Provision is made for 15 days'

sick leave, instead of the existing 30 days' allowance. The new provision, however, permits a total of 90 days' cumulative sick leave and as much as 30 days' over the basic 15 days, at the discretion of the bureau or department head, in case of serious illness.

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FOREST SERIES WEEKLY FEATURE  
OF ARKANSAS PAPER

Supervisor Nelson is proud of the weekly feature supplied to a Mt. Ida, Arkansas, newspaper by Ranger Bigley under the caption "Your National Forest." A briefed version of the last one of this series to reach the Regional Office is reproduced as a suggestion to other rangers who might be interested in inaugurating similar publicity features in their district.

"YOUR NATIONAL FOREST-  
SLATINGTON LOOKOUT

Slatington Lookout is one of three primary lookout stations on the Womble District. It is located in the southwest part of Montgomery County in the heart of the Little Missouri Mountains.

To reach this Station by auto one may start at Norman and go west on highway # 8. About two miles past Slatington Camp a left turn indicates the beginning of a Forest Service Road known as the Crooked Creek Truck Trail. Three miles south on this road one will reach the Mosquito Gap a crossing point on the Slatington Mountain.



As the lookout station is approached, one will note a square, low-roofed observatory. In this observatory are two men whose sole duty is to detect and report smokes which might turn out to be forest fires. These men work, eat and sleep in the 14' x 18' observatory and may be considered as the eyes of the Forest Service over the area which they cover.

At the present time, Jerry Jeffry is the chief lookout at this station. He has had over fifteen years' experience as lookout man and has many a yarn to spin for those who visit him. Jim Green is understudy lookout and acts as relief man when necessary.

It is over the west side of Montgomery County and the east side of Polk County that the lookout men from their commanding view at Slatington Tower keep a constant vigilance for the first sign of a woods smoke which might require the action of the fire suppression organization.

#### FOREST FIRES DESTROY GROUND COVER AND CAUSE SOIL EROSION "

The Ranger  
Norman, Arkansas.

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#### OH SURE! YOU CAN KEEP IT IN THE CAN

It is just as safe to keep canned food in the can it comes in- if the can is cool and covered- as it is to empty the food into another container. Thousands of housewives are firm in the faith that canned

goods ought to be emptied as soon as the can is opened, or at least before the remainder of the food goes into the refrigerator- one of the persistent food fallacies. The question keeps coming to the Bureau of Home Economics in letters from homemakers.

A few acid foods may dissolve a little iron from the can, but this is not harmful, not dangerous to health. Cans and food are sterilized in the "processing." But the dish into which the food might be emptied is far from sterile. In other words, it is likely to have on it bacteria that cause food to spoil.

Whether in the original can or in another container, the principal precautions for keeping food are- keep it cool and keep it covered.

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#### A MOUNTAIN TRAGEDY

The tragic story of how a mother and her daughter were lost in the Nantahala Mountains and the death of the mother from cold and exposure was told in a report to Mr. Philip E. Bryan, Forest Supervisor of the Nantahala National Forest by Project Superintendent K. B. Trousdell of CCC Camp N. C. F-23.

On Monday morning February 17, 1936, Mrs. Parker and her 16-year old daughter, Minnie, left their mountain home on Betty's Creek, Georgia, and headed

through the rough stretch of country to Cartoogee settlement. It was necessary to cross a divide 4,000 feet high and follow woods trails for a distance of fourteen miles.

Near noon they were in the vicinity of Coweeta Experiment Station near Reynolds Gap and asked a resident there the direction of Cartoogee settlement. They were directed to the right trail and proceeded on their way. At 2:30 that afternoon, they met Assistant Leader William Griffin and a small crew of CCC men from Camp N. C. F-23, who were doing maintenance work on a new trail. Griffin walked with the two women to a point one mile down this trail, where they were again set in the right direction. Mr. Griffin offered further assistance, which was declined. The incident was reported to Will Stewart, a Forest Service employee. Shortly after, the skies clouded and a cold rain started to fall. The CCC crew ceased work and returned to camp. Just before dawn the rain stopped and the temperature dropped to about 20 degrees.

On Tuesday morning the bitter cold delayed the usual early departure of the CCC work crews, but about nine o'clock a crew of 20 boys was sent to the construction detail of the upper rain gauge trail. A tragic sight greeted their arrival. Mrs. Parker, lying on the ground partly under a pitched tarpaulin, was apparently dead. About 30 feet down the trail was the motionless body of her daughter. They were three miles in

the opposite direction from which they had been directed the day before.

The CCC enrollees quickly organized first aid activities and sent to the camp for aid. The girl was soon revived, but the mother could not be aroused. They were carried on litters over the four miles of mountain trail to be rushed to the hospital at Franklin.

Building trails, improving stands of Uncle Sam's timber, or saving human lives, the CCC boys carry on their work effectively and wholeheartedly.

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#### TREES FOR THE FLORIDA SAVANNAS?

An interesting tree planting experiment is being inaugurated on the Apalachicola Unit of the Florida Forests in an attempt to solve the problem of barren land, not alone in that vicinity of the Forest, but all along the Florida gulf coast. The State has many large sections known as savannas. These areas are treeless plains usually covered by a dense growth of wire grass. Foresters are puzzled to know why trees thrive all around these spots, and not on the savannas themselves. From surface appearance, the terrain is the same. There is no apparent difference in the soil or exposure. A hard pan clay layer is known to exist from one to six feet under the top soil of part of the areas, but this condition is also found in portions where timber grows. The theory has been advanced that since timbered spots are slightly higher in altitude than the surrounding treeless wastes, if some provision could be made to



change the elevation, or give better drainage conditions, it might make the territory productive.

The experimental area under consideration is about twenty feet above sea level. Different vegetation has been observed growing on the higher ridges left by road ruts than grew in the depressions of the old road beds, and on the adjacent flats. Drainage was accomplished and ridges constructed by use of a Hester plow and a "35" cletrac tractor. The plow was set to dig fairly deep and to throw a good ridge. It was maneuvered on the return trip in such a manner that the ridge of the former trip was overlapped. The ridges averaged about twelve feet from center to center. Young slash pine trees were planted on the ridges, using a council tree lifting and planting tool. The stock obtained were wildlings lifted from nearby flat-woods.

With the same idea of drainage and aeration, another method of ridging and ditching was tried. A single furrow ditch was pulled through the savanna area at intervals of twenty five feet. This area was afforded excellent drainage, but was not given the aeration treatment of the first method as described above. A portion of this area was treated with dynamite. One stick was exploded every hundred feet at a depth of six feet to break up the underlying hard pan and allow for underground drainage.

Only a portion of the area treated was planted. The remainder is

to lie fallow until next spring when it is planned to make additional plantings, and observe whether the part planted immediately after treatment grows as well or better than the portion left standing for twelve months. During this time the drainage and resultant change of soil condition will take place.

This experiment will be closely watched and if the results expected are attained, many acres of treeless plains may be converted to productive forest.

-- Lester P. Schaap,  
Florida Forests.

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#### EXTENSIVE SCHEDULE FOR MR. WHEELER

H. N. Wheeler, of the Division of State and Private Forestry, Washington Office, visited the Regional Office on March 2 prior to beginning his spring lecture tour in the States of Georgia and Florida. His first illustrated talk was given at the Georgia State College for Women, Milledgeville, on March 2. From there he visited Baxley, Lakeland, Homerville, and Brunswick, speaking to 8 CCC camps and interested citizens assembled at these points. From Georgia, Mr. Wheeler went to Tallahassee on March 9, appearing before three National Forests and State CCC camps gathered at Jewel, Fla. Other talks were made to National Forest and State camps at Lake City, Jacksonville, Ocala, and Plant City.

## MARKET RANGE OF NORTH CAROLINA COMPANY STUDIED

In connection with studies of selling prices of lumber at mills in the vicinity of Pisgah National Forest, a tabulation was made of the sales of one of the larger hardwood concerns to show the range of their market. The amount and the destination of each lumber sale was taken from invoices. The tabulation included all the lumber sold by the company in 1935 except some negligible items of Buckeye, Beech, Locust and a few other species of which very small amounts were sold. Also, it was necessary to leave out a few invoices that did not indicate clearly where the lumber went.

The tabulation showed sales amounting to 2,181 M, divided among the species as follows:

	<u>Percent</u>		<u>Percent</u>
Red Oak	41.9	Hard Maple	5.3
Chestnut	29.0	White Oak	3.8
Basswood	8.9	Ash	1.3
Poplar	6.3	Pine	3.5

This lumber was taken by 13 states and for export in proportions shown.

	<u>Percent</u>
North Carolina-(Local, within 30 miles of Asheville----- (Points more than 30 miles	16.9 30.9
Tennessee-----	8.2
Virginia-----	1.4
Export(from Norfolk, Virginia)-----	2.3
Pennsylvania-----	9.4
Ohio-----	5.3
New York-----	6.6
Massachusetts-----	8.8
New Jersey-----	4.9
Georgia-----	1.9
Kentucky-----	1.5
Indiana-----	.7
Connecticut-----	.7
Maryland-----	.5
	<hr/> 100.0

It is seen that less than 50% of this company's lumber was used in North Carolina. Most of the lumber not leaving the state went to furniture manufacturers in the Piedmont, Red Oak being the major species for this use. Oak was the only species exported, 24% of the White Oak and  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  of the Red Oak going to Norfolk for this purpose. The company apparently has built up a special Chestnut trade in the East. It was noted that 59% of the Chestnut went to three states, Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts. A considerable amount of this was taken by casket manufacturers. Less than 20% of the Chestnut was used in North Carolina. Most of the poplar also went to Eastern markets, New York and New Jersey, accounting for 52%. Hard maple had the least traveling, as over 90% of it was used in North Carolina and Tennessee.

J. H. Stone,  
Supervisor-Pisgah.

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#### AN EXPERIMENT IN ACREAGE COMPUTATION

A recent happening on one of the Forests in this Region should be of interest to all who are connected with acquisition surveys, and, in fact, to everyone in the Service.

A friendly argument arose between two men engaged in acreage computation as to the accuracy of our present method of doing this work. A was a little inclined to doubt that our present procedure furnished a sufficiently accurate method, probably basing his scepticism

on the fact that a minor adjustment in the computation is made graphically. B contended that the method used would produce highly accurate results, justifying his contention, no doubt, by the fact that the method is based on the exactly computed areas of quadrangles formed by latitudinal and meridian lines one minute apart.

The argument became so warm that it eventually developed into a wager. A 25,000-acre case had just been computed in the usual manner. In order to settle the wager, it was decided to compute the acreage of this offering by the "double meridian distance" method (an exact mathematical computation). This they proceeded to do (on their own time, incidentally). When the last figure had been put down it was found that, in this offering of more than 25,000 acres, the two methods produced results which differed by only two tenths of one acre, or, in percentage, .0008 of one per cent.

I believe that the doubter was convinced; and I hope that this demonstration will allay the fears of anyone else who wonders if we are using an exact method of acreage computation.

W. N. Sloan

Regional Office.--

SHEEPSFOOT ROLLER VINDICATES  
ITSELF

Most of the Supervisors will



probably remember the disparaging remarks by Supervisor Bishop regarding the sheepsfoot roller to be used in completing the Ratcliff Dam, and which was past due in delivery. The following is quoted from a memorandum from Supervisor Bishop to Supervisor Hartman:

" I am pleased to be able to advise you that the present day answer to the age-old prayer of dam builders, the sheep foot roller, has served faithfully and well our purpose and is awaiting your command. Once we got it, it did not take us long to get the job done.

I am not just sure how the roller could be transported most economically. It is a ponderous affair and must weigh several tons. I am asking Superintendent Lamb to advise as to how it might best be delivered to its new stomping ground."

Rezin E. Pidgeon,  
Asst. Regional Forester.

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FROM INCENDIARY TO FOREST OFFICER

How the Forest Service nearly put me in jail and then gave me a job is a story I always enjoy telling.

During the Christmas holidays in 1925, in company with three friends, I was on a hunting trip in the Ouachita National Forest. I was at that time a freshman at Centenary College taking a pre-law course.

We were camped in the Little Missouri Valley near Missouri Falls. We started a fire in a hollow oak to smoke out a squirrel. The tree caught fire inside, so we built a big fire around the base of the tree and burned it down. This required several hours. We then put as much of the fire out as we could and tried to mop up around the area enough to prevent the fire from breaking out.

We returned to our camp for the night. The next day we went up to road to see if the fire was dead and discovered that it had broken out and spread. We were on the fire in a few minutes and ran into another fellow who was also fighting the fire. As soon as we had the half-acre burn out, the three of us sat down on a rock to rest. The newcomer introduced himself as Melbourne Lowery, a United States Forest Service Guard. We gave our names and explained our presence on the fire.

We chatted for half an hour or so until most all the chunks around the fire were out; then Lowery told us that he would have to take us to the tower with him and call the District Ranger at Norman, and find out what he was to do with us.

This started a proceeding that ended with my being fined \$25.00 and costs after I pleaded guilty to starting the fire. I had to send home for money to pay the fine which was more than I expected after my frankness in admitting the crime and our work in putting out the fire. There was no way for the funds to

reach us except by mail and all this required three days. The jail was inaccessible and Ranger Jones kept me in custody at the ranger station. We got to be pretty good friends during the three days.

The last night I was there we talked about the Forest Service and forestry. I was very much interested after what I had seen in the three days. I told Jones that I believed I would like the Forest Service work, but did not guess I could get a job after what had happened. Jones said he thought that I still had a chance if I really wanted it. He said he needed a patrolman for one of the areas in his district for the spring fire season and that if I wanted the job I could have it, providing that the Supervisor, Charles A. Plymale, did not object to him hiring me.

I left the next morning, not expecting the job to materialize. In a couple of days I received a letter from Jones, telling me to report to the Ranger Station on January 13. I was assigned to Lowery for two weeks' training, then to the Polk Creek area as patrolman along Gap Mountain. I remained there until March 1, at which time Lowery was transferred from the Slatington Tower to High Peak Tower. I was then transferred to Slatington. At the close of the fire season I returned to Centenary College.

For a period of five years or so I worked for the Forest Service and attended Louisiana State University.

At the time I completed my course in Forestry, there was no junior forester examinations being given and very little chance of employment as a forester. However, in May, 1933, I received an appointment as a cultural foreman on the Unaka Forest.

In November, 1933, I resigned as Cultural Foreman of the Unaka to accept a position with the then newly created Forestry Division of the Tennessee Valley Authority, as Ranger Forester. Since that time, I have had an opportunity for advancement, and at present am classified as Associate Forester. The duties are the supervision of the subdistrict foresters who are responsible for the technical planning and supervision of the reforestation and forest development work carried on by the Tennessee Valley Authority with the aid of the Civilian Conservation Corps camps.

-- W. N. Darwin.

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Those in the field who recently have had to struggle with key individual lists will be interested in the following letter to Mr. Kircher from G. H. Collingwood of the American Forestry Association:

" Thank you for the complete and carefully prepared list of individuals which accompanied your letter of March 14. This promises to be a very real help in connection with all of our work in relation to congressional affairs, because included in these lists are many who we have never had contact with before."



## F O R E S T   N E W S

PISGAH NATIONAL FOREST-- The first fire meeting of the season for the Mt. Mitchell District was held on February 15 in the Lodge at the Mt. Mitchell Stage Game Refuge. Thirty-one members of the facilitating personnel from CCC camps and ERA jobs were present. Similar fire meetings have been held throughout the month on this Forest, and it is felt that they will be of great help in fire protection.

The first fire of the season on the Mt. Mitchell District resulted when a woman attempted to "swinge off" a lettuce bed on the watershed on Curtis Creek. One and a half acres of private land were sacrificed for an 8' x 12' lettuce bed.

Fire prevention work on the Pisgah District was opened by motion pictures and talks by the Project Superintendent George K. Schaeffer, NC F-22, at the different schools on that District.

The Asheville office staff, Rangers and Assistant Rangers from all the Districts on the Pisgah and Unaka, and Appalachian Forest Experiment Station members inspected sample plots showing fire experiments, necrotic canker attacks, entomological investigations, etc. The entire company had dinner at CCC Camp NC F-22.

--J. Herbert Stone,  
Forest Supervisor.

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## NANTAHALA

The past winter has been the hardest one on roads that the Nantahala National Forest has ever experienced because of excessive precipitation and much freezing weather. Construction work was practically at a standstill for two months. Maintenance crews were kept busy. Two severe landslides occurred on the famous Winding Stairs. Concrete cribbings are having to be constructed as retaining walls at these points.

Construction will soon start on the Nantahala Fish Hatchery in Oconee County, South Carolina. This will consist of forty rearing pools, each twenty-five feet in diameter and a building forty feet by eighty feet. It is planned to complete the project late this spring.

The last two thousand dogwood seedlings of the ten thousand that were dug last November for planting in the parks of Atlanta were moved March 11. They have been "heeled" in all winter.

Work has started on a forest model which will be used for display purposes throughout the Region. When completed it will show lakes and streams, recreational areas, logging operations, lookout towers, a ranger station and system of roads. Despite the cold, inclement weather, recreational use on areas now under construction is in evidence. If these early season indications may be considered a criterion, recreational use will reach a new peak this summer.

Approximately 13,000 acres of the Carolina Alumina lands surrounding Lake Santeetlah are being examined. If acquired, this area will greatly enhance the recreational possibilities on the Nantahala.

John Wasilik, Chief of Acquisition, enjoyed a half hour's sport on the ice of East Buffalo Creek last winter, to the consternation of several natives who evidently had never before seen ice skates. His apparent foolhardiness was accompanied by such shouts as, "Hey, what's the matter with you? Do you want to drown?" and "All right, keep it up. You'll break your neck yet!" When he finally reached shore without the slightest mishap they continued on their ways with the same feeling of disappointment that a city crowd evidences when a human fly reaches the top of a high building in safety.

Due to the large amount of newly optioned lands, we have had an unduly large number of fires recently. However, no acquired land has been burned. On March 15 it is planned to send a motion picture outfit into these areas in the hope of securing better cooperation from our new neighbors.

"Jim" Cartwright is heading up the educational program and stirring up some real enthusiasm in the work.

-- Philip H. Bryan,  
Forest Supervisor--

SUMTER

Educational work on the Long Cane is progressing rapidly under the

supervision of F. M. Green, the new Educational Adviser.

H. A. Sullivan, Recreational Engineer, has located a number of Civil War breastworks along the Neuse River in Craven County, N. C. These fortifications were used by the Southern army in the defense of New Bern and have almost been lost in the growth of pine forests. It is hoped to restore parts of these historic sites.

"The Bear Couldn't Take It." Recently a fire call came, and Company 5420, New Bern, answered it. When they arrived at the scene of the fire, they were met by a bear. "Hocus Pocus", said the gang in unison to the bear, and judging from the way the bear ran over the hill, they must have scared him badly- or else he wasn't used to slang and ran away so that he wouldn't have to listen to anymore of it!

Fire training school was held at Camp F-6 during February 14 and 15. The school was attended by Supervisor Sears and his staff, Ranger Billingsley and his staff, and most of the rated and local experienced men of Camps F-5, F-6 and F-10. The principal speaker was E. F. Mynatt, Regional Law Officer, who spoke on Law Enforcement.

A great deal of interest is being shown in the building up of "Key Lists" of influential people interested in forest conservation, land planning, recreation, wild life, grazing and forest research. We've been busy getting up these lists. In fact, everybody's gone "key list conscious." This is



one of the best plans yet to get people interested in our work-to make the public " Forestry conscious."

The Sumter is doing its part in this campaign. We have planned a float for the Columbia Sesqui- Centennial parade on March 23. General plans for the float include a 1-1/2 ton Chevrolet truck containing a few stuffed animals to depict wild life in the forests, some pines to depict forest growth, and posters containing information to the effect that the Sumter National Forest is a Unit of the United States Forest Service which has been in existence for thirty-one years.

This PR work is very important, and we intend doing our part to further it.

-- H. M. Sears,  
Forest Supervisor.

#### OUACHITA

Timber sales on the Forest are very active. Ranger Griswold has two sales on the Oden District that cut 1,627,330 bd. ft. during February. Ranger Dale says that six going Class B & C sales of White Oak keeps his force busy scaling and getting payments in advance of cutting. He says that the biggest job is telling the would-be purchasers that he can't handle any more sales at the present time. The story with all the Rangers is that applications for sales of white oak are more plentiful than the timber on this Forest.

The Game Warden's quarters at

Oak Mountain Refuge is almost completed and is a very attractive structure. The Muddy Creek one is nearing completion but due to the very cold weather, work was delayed on the Pigeon Creek building. However, with warmer weather rapid progress is being made on this building.

Three hundred large mouth Bass from 6" to 10" long and six thousand large mouth Bass Fingerlings were planted in Muddy Creek this month. The fish were a contribution of the Lonoke Arkansas-State Hatchery.

Project Superintendent Thomas says the mink and raccoon that he has been seeing on the refuge will have a good time now with all the new fish supply. Ranger Rogers reports the planting of 10 turkey hens and four gobblers on Winding Stair Mountain by the Oklahoma Fish and Game Commission.

We had a total of sixteen fires on the Forest in February-five Class A, ten Class B and one Class C. The sixteen fires burned over a total of nine acres of National Forest land. The new Arkansas fire law known as the Cole- Crutchfield Act is being applied effectively to some of the brush burning and careless camp fire builders and is a poultice that if properly applied will cure some of the sore spots.

On February 28, a party of five, representing the girl scouts organization, one of them from Washington, D. C., accompanied the Ranger and the Landscape Technician to the Narrows Dam site. Locations for



scout buildings representing an expenditure of \$25,000, were tentatively selected by the scout officials. The organization has employed one of the leading Architects of the State to work out building plans for this project.

Engineers are busy on the Alum Fork Dam project which is to furnish a water supply for the City of Little Rock.

A number of photographic display panels have been built on the Forest and are being placed in hotels and other places. The panels carry about 30 photographs and are very attractive displays.

The high spot of the happenings during February was the visit paid us by Associate Forester E. A. Sherman. The office force was called together one afternoon and Mr. Sherman made a very interesting talk. He grew reminiscent and his story of the early days in the history of the Forest Service was both instructive and highly entertaining. Other visitors to the Forest were Rezin E. Pidgeon and Ben Hughes of the Regional Office.

-- A. L. Nelson,  
Forest Supervisor.

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#### OZARK

A dance was given by the Ozark employees on the evening of February 21 for the forestry employees of the State, comprising the Ouachita, the State Forester's Office, and the Title Attorneys. About 65 couples were

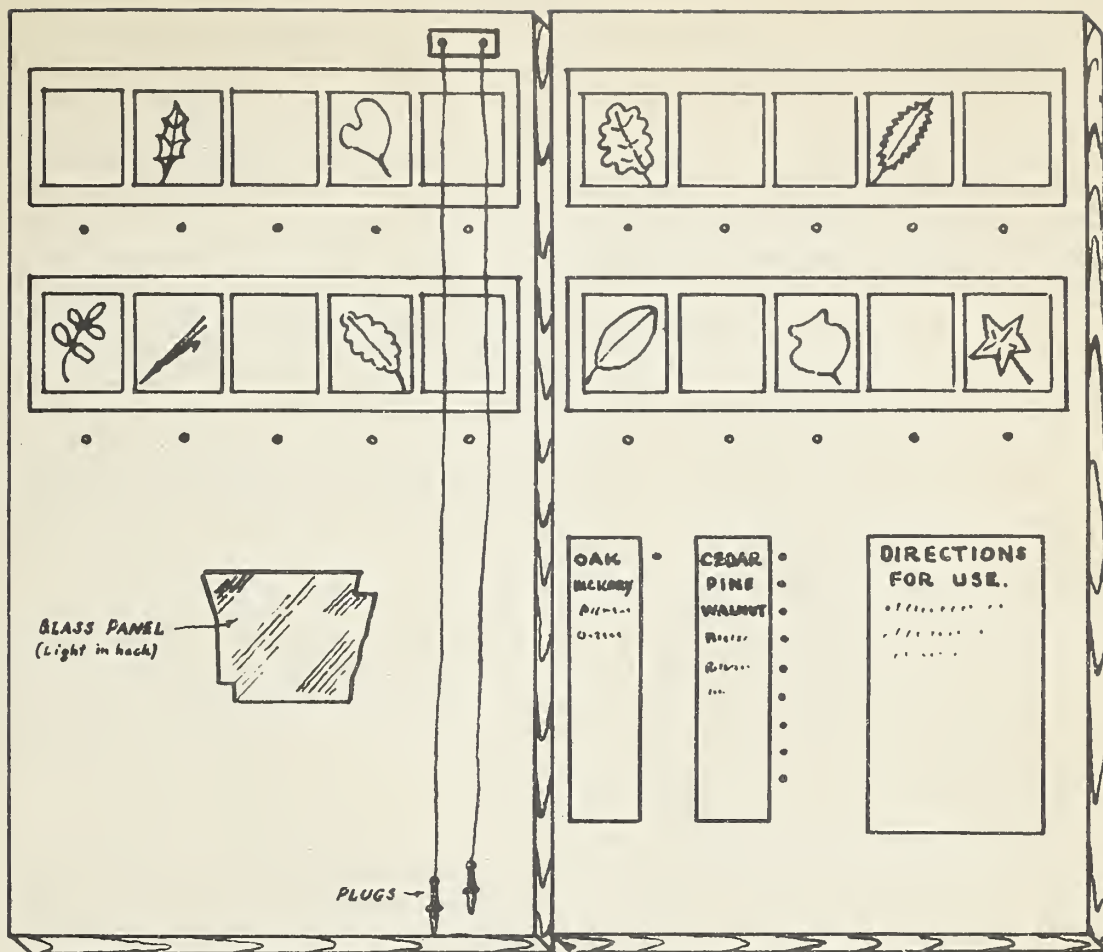
present. Short talks were made by Regional Engineer Pidgeon, Forest Supervisor Koen, State Forester Gillett and Executive Assistant Yates. The Ozark Nursery is back to "horse and buggy days" by having to use mule teams instead of the motor cultivator purloined (beg pardon, borrowed) by the De Soto.

Assistant Chief E. A. Sherman visited the Ozark during February, the first time in 21 years, giving us occasion to be honored by one of the really grand persons of the Service. Somehow or another, by reason of his visit, we could hark back to the days of "esprit de corps" and "one big family", some early day slogans the last few hectic years have partially erased.

Supervisor Conarro, Executive Assistant Du Pree and Bookkeeper Sells were also visitors. It probably will not be settled which forest is to have the blue ribbon, until the Ozark personnel can descend in a body on Jackson, Mississippi.

Regional Engineer Pidgeon's presence at the Russellville Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet got him called upon for a speech. Altogether it was probably the best of the evening and the Ozark and Supervisor Koen's accomplishments benefited greatly. At least one of several remarks was overheard wherein it was stated that it was too bad Mr. Pidgeon could not be permanently on the Ozark.

-- H. B. Helms,  
Acting Supervisor.



### LEAF IDENTIFICATION EXHIBIT

The Arkansas State forestry organization has developed an interesting exhibit for use in fairs throughout the State. It is an electric leaf identification game and is shown in the diagram above. The visitor tests his knowledge of the trees by using the two electric plugs to connect the tree leaves with the names of the trees which he believes they represent. One plug is inserted below a leaf and the other plug is inserted opposite the name he believes to be correct. If he is successful in putting the correct leaf with the correct name, a light appears and a bell rings, encouraging him to proceed with the display of his knowledge. Details concerning the construction and maintenance of this equipment may be obtained by writing Mr. Charles Gillett, State Forester, Little Rock, Arkansas.

-- W. R. Hine,  
Regional Office.



## THE LOOKOUT

Associate Regional Forester Stabler and Roy S. Richardson, Regional ECW Officer, recently returned from a trip to the Washington Office. They visited the Sumter en route.

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P. J. Paxton, Division of Lands, left March 9 for the Sumter, where he will be for the next two or three weeks.

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W. W. Bowers, Division of Lands, is spending a week in South Carolina.

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W. R. Hine and J. H. Stone, Division of State and Private Forestry, left March 16 for a week's trip to Tennessee.

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Regional Fiscal Agent Marshall and Mr. Phillips of the Washington Office are visiting the Nantahala.

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The deepest sympathy of his friends in the Southern Region, is extended to J. H. Stone, Division of State and Private Forestry, in the loss of his wife, who died on March 2.

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Kenneth Bleckley, draftsman on the Sumter, has been detailed to the Regional Office until July on special work.

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Miss Rivers, Miss Kilgore, and Rudolph Knoll of the Ouachita attended Mardi Gras in New Orleans.

Miss Rachel Lincoln, Division of Timber Management, has returned from a cruise to the West Indies.

James T. Warthen, Division of Engineering, has resigned to accept a position at Aiken, South Carolina, where he will have charge of the construction of a High School building.

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### S P O R T S

The organization of a Regional Office Softball team has just been completed and this team will be a member of the Greater Atlanta Softball Association. The franchise will cost a small sum as well as the uniforms. Tickets will be offered, good for any game, at 50 cents each to every member of the Regional Office and a purchase of tickets will evidence your interest in supporting the team. It's good PR and its good for the personnel so LET'S GO!!!!

-- F. C. Stone,  
Regional Office.

To Miss Robinson, on the Alabama:

Miss Donia, - Doggon'ya  
Keep writing- that's good!  
Be a poet- why don't ya,  
We knew that ya could!

But why do you rhyme,  
Of Alabam's cline,  
When you know darn well,  
That it rains all the time?

Miss Donia, Miss Donia,  
We sigh with your pain  
Hereafter have Alabam  
Rhyme more with rain!

You must have forgotten  
You were happy and free,  
And we were your friends  
On the "sunny" Cherokee.

Yet, there's a hint of a smile,  
A glimpse of a tear,  
Is a poor heart breaking,  
Would you rather be here?

-- Arthur Woody,

Cherokee Forest.





